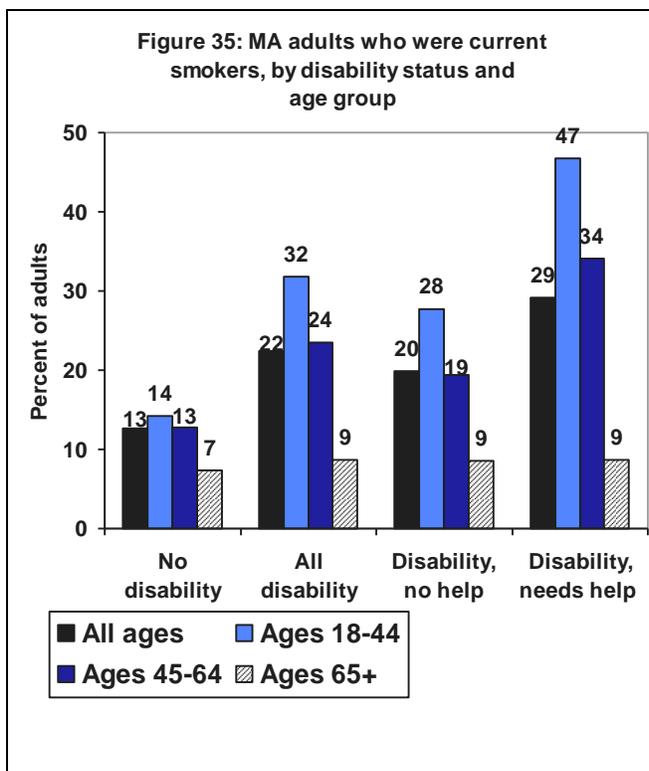




Facts on Smoking among People with Disabilities in Massachusetts

*In Massachusetts, almost **twice** as many people with disabilities report having smoked in the past four weeks as people without disabilities.*



Data Source: BRFSS 2008-10

Adults ages 18-44 years old with a disability are **twice** as likely to have smoked as people of the same age range without a disability.

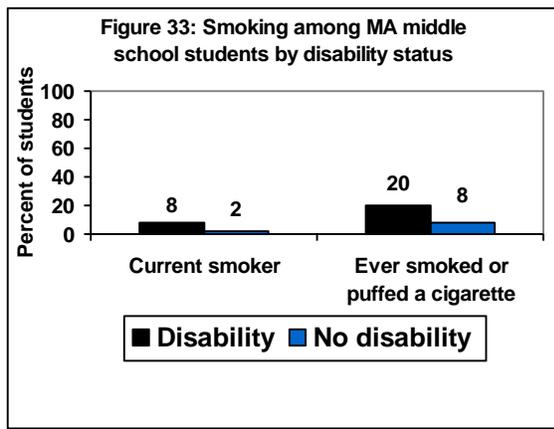
Similarly, adults ages 18-44 who report needing help with routine or personal care are more than **three times** as likely to have smoked in the past four weeks as are people without disabilities in the same age group.

Adults ages 45-64 with disabilities are about **10%** more likely to smoke than people without disabilities.

Adults Attempting to Quit Smoking:

68% of smokers with disabilities who report needing help with routine and personal care and **59%** of smokers with disabilities who do not need help have made at least one quit attempt in the past year.

Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in the US. Smoking cigarettes is a habit often acquired during the teenage years.



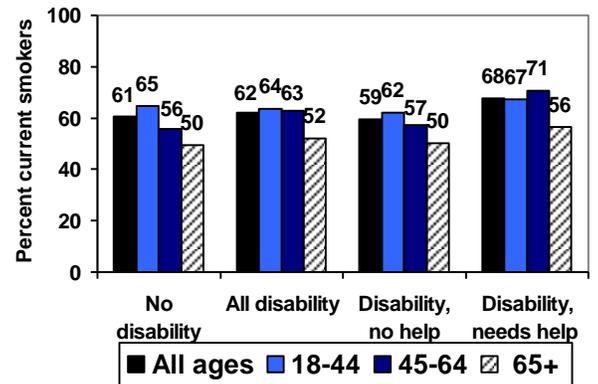
Data Source: MA YHS 2011

High School Students

Among high school students, 20% of those with disabilities are current smokers compared to 10% of those without disabilities, and 43% of those with disabilities have smoked at least once in their lifetime compared to 32% of those without disabilities.

For more information contact:
 Massachusetts Department of Public Health
 Office of Health Equity
 Health and Disability Program
 250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108
 Phone: (617)624-5540 Fax: (617)624-6062
 TTY: (617)624-5002
www.mass.gov/dph/healthequity
www.mass.gov/dph/healthanddisability

Figure 36: MA adults who made quit attempts in the past year, by disability status and age group



Middle School Students

8% of middle school students with disabilities were current smokers compared to 2% of their non-disabled counterparts in 2011.

High school students are more likely to report current and lifetime smoking than middle school students, irrespective of disability status.